

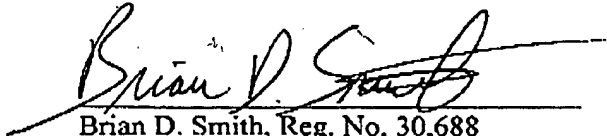
intervening claims. In view of the allowed claims, particularly claim 7 which recites the removable nature of the intermediate sleeve, Applicants respectfully submit that their newly amended claims are also now allowable, i.e. claims 8, 18 and their depending claims, since these claims also now recite the removable nature of the sleeve. New claim 22 also has been drafted to recite the removal nature of the sleeve. In addition to the foregoing, claim 10 is considered to be patentable since Gadefait is not seen to disclose a foraminous section "in the duct" adjacent the duct's inlet end.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration are requested and allowance is solicited at an early date. Applicant has also enclosed a Petition for Extension of Time and the requisite fee therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

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